

The Future
Leonard Cohen

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From: Clay Jonathan Boutilier

THE FUTURE (L. Cohen)
from Columbia Records release THE FUTURE by LEONARD COHEN (CK 53226)

Transcribed by Clay Boutilier 07/30/95

URL: <http://www.cgl.uwaterloo.ca/~cjboutil/>

[Intro]

Am

[Verse 1]

Dm
Give me back my broken night, my mirrored room, my secret life
G6 **E7** **Am**
it s lonely here, there s no one left to torture

Dm
Give me absolute control over every living soul
G6 **Am**
And lie beside me baby, that s an order!

Dm
Give me crack an anal sex, take the only tree that s left
G6 **E7** **Am**
and stuff it up the hole in your culture

Dm
Give me back the Berlin Wall, give me Stalin and St. Paul
G6 **E7** **Am**
I ve seen the future, brother: it is murder.

[Chorus]

Dm **C**
Things are gonna slide (slide) in all directions
Dm **C**
Won t be nothing (won t be) nothing you can t measure anymore.
Dm **F**
The blizzard, the blizzard of the world has crossed the threshold
Fm **C**

and it has overturned the order of the soul

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

[Verse 2]

(same chords as first)

You don't know me from the wind, you never will, you never did

I'm the little Jew who wrote the bible

I've seen nations rise and fall, I've heard their stories, heard them all

but love's the only engine of survival

Your servant here he has been told to say it clear to say it cold:

It's over, it ain't going any further

And now the wheels of heaven stop, you feel the devil's riding crop

Get ready for the future: it is murder.

[Chorus]

Dm

C

Things are gonna slide (slide) in all directions

Dm

C

Won't be nothing (won't be) nothing you can't measure anymore.

Dm

F

The blizzard, the blizzard of the world has crossed the threshold

Fm

C

and it has overturned the order of the soul

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

G

When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)

Am

I wonder what they meant

[Verse 3]

There'll be the breaking of the ancient western code

Dm
 Your private life will suddenly explode
Am
 There ll be phantoms, there ll be fires on the road
F7 E
 and the white man dancing
Am
 You ll see your woman hanging upside down
Dm
 her features covered by her fallen gown
Am
 and all the lousy little poets coming around
F7 E
 trying to sound like Charlie Manson
Am
 and the white man dancing
Dm
 Give me back the Berlin Wall, give me Stalin and St. Paul
G6 E7 Am
 Give me Christ or give me Hiroshima
Dm
 Destroy another fetus now, we don t like children anyhow
G6 E7 Am
 I ve seen the future, baby: it is murder.

[Chorus]

Dm C
 Things are gonna slide (slide) in all directions
Dm C
 Won t be nothing (won t be) nothing you can t measure anymore.
Dm F
 The blizzard, the blizzard of the world has crossed the threshold
Fm C
 and it has overturned the order of the soul
G
 When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)
Am
 I wonder what they meant
G
 When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)
Am
 I wonder what they meant
G
 When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)
Am
 I wonder what they meant
G Am
 When they said (they said) REPENT (repent) REPENT (repent)
 (end on **Am**)

Chords:

EADGBE
Am: X02210
C: X32010
Dm: XX0231
E7: 030100
F: 133211
Fm: 133111
F7: 131211
G: 320003
G6: 320000